

**State Board of Education
Legislative Affairs Committee Report
June 17 & 18, 1999**

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ITEM 6.1

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL APRIL 29, 1999 - 10:00 AM MDT MINUTES

PRESENT:

Curtis Eaton
Marilyn Howard
Tom Boyd
Mike Killworth
Peter Morrill

Gary Felt
Miles LaRowe
Kirk Dennis
Jeff Shinn
Ron Pisaneschi

Greg Fitch
Jennifer Wallace
Randi McDermott

6.1 May 20, 1999 Video Conference Agenda

Topics for the Board's videoconference with Legislators and others were finalized, with added suggestions from Dr. Howard and Senator Schroeder. The Committee asked that other Board members be contacted for agreement on the topics. Other items related to the agenda and format of the videoconference were discussed.

6.2 1999 Legislative After-Action Items

During the 1999 legislative session, a number of new or amended statutes were enacted that require action by the SBOE or SBOE governed agencies / institutions. The listing of Board mandates along with assigned personnel / agency to complete or be responsible for following up on the mandate was reviewed and agreed on by the Committee as follows.

TOPIC	BOARD MANDATE	Assign to
Reading Assessments	Assessments are to begin after an appropriate phase in time as determined by the SBOE	SDE
	The SBOE approved "Idaho Comprehensive Literacy Plan" is reference document for assessments	SDE
	The assessment shall be a single statewide test as specified by the SBOE	SDE
	Results will be maintained & compiled by the SDE and reported annually to SBOE	SDE
Reading Interventions	School district trustees will establish an extended year SBOE approved reading program	SDE
	Intervention program participation and effectiveness by school and district shall be presented annually to the SBOE and others	SDE
Pre-service Reading Instruction	The SBOE shall review teacher preparation programs at the public higher education institutions and shall assure the course offerings and graduation requirements are consistent with the Idaho Comprehensive Literacy Plan	MIKE K.
	SBOE may allocate funds to institutions which require revisions (\$500,000 appropriated for this purpose)	MIKE K.
	The SBOE shall be responsible for the development of a single pre-service assessment measure for all K-8 teacher preparation programs	MIKE K.
	By September 2000, all teacher candidates shall pass this assessment as part of the graduation requirements from an Idaho teacher preparation program, and the SBOE shall report annually to the legislature & governor the number of pre-service teachers taking & passing this performance-based assessment	MIKE K.

Textbooks	SBOE shall require all publishers of textbooks approved for use to furnish the SDE with electronic formats when they become available, in a standard format approved by the SBOE, from which reproductions can be made for the blind	SDE
Scholarships for dependents of peace officers & firefighters	SBOE shall verify eligibility of the dependent and communicate such eligibility to the dependent and the affected institution	MIKE K.
ICTL	Appoint / Oversee appointments of Members and select a Chairman	MIKE K. / FITCH
	Approve meeting policies	MIKE K. / FITCH
	Council will develop a statewide educational technology plan, subject to annual review & approval by the SBOE	MIKE K. / FITCH
	Council staff will be drawn from various educational segments as recommended by the Council and approved by the SBOE	MIKE K. / FITCH
	SBOE shall report to the legislature & governor in October annually on impact, cost and benefits of the educational technology program	MIKE K. / FITCH
	SBOE shall establish standing subcommittees, one for higher education and one for public K-12 education	MIKE K. / FITCH
	SBOE shall review & approve allocation of \$1,000,000 for teacher training	MIKE K. / FITCH
	Approve allocation of funds for staff support	MIKE K. / FITCH
Voc Ed	Make necessary changes in accordance with new designation as State Board for Professional-technical Education	MIKE RUSH
	SBOE shall evaluate policy on allocation of state appropriations for new and existing vocational programs, considering retention of quality instructors and market demands.	MIKE RUSH/ MIKE K.

TOPIC	OTHER RECOMMENDED BOARD FOLLOW-UP	Assign to
School facilities	The Board may want to partner with legislators, the governor's office, educators, etc. in the interim to consider viable solutions that will likely come up next session	MIKE K. / LAC
SCR 114 Interim Committee	SBOE/SDE may want to participate in this interim committee to undertake and complete a study of Idaho laws regarding teacher and administrator contracts and evaluation processes	MIKE K. / FITCH
H 310 Charter school revisions	New provision passed relating to charter schools this session. SBOE may want to look closely at and discuss the ramifications of these new provisions related to charter schools, especially the change in the funding formula	MIKE K. / KEVIN

Item 6.3 Identification of SBOE's Core Legislative Principles

Due to the SBOE's meeting schedule, it has at times been difficult for individual Board members and the staff to respond to legislative requests in a timely manner. One suggestion to mitigate this problem is for the Board to formulate core principles that could be used to make all of the players aware of the Board's position on certain legislative issues, and would prove especially useful to staff when faced with responding to fast moving legislative events. Suggested core principles were developed and are to be forwarded to the Board at their June meeting.

SUBJECT: Identification of SBOE's Core Legislative Principles

Due to the SBOE's meeting schedule, it has at times been difficult for individual Board members and staff to respond to legislative requests in a timely manner. One suggestion to mitigate this problem is for the Board to formulate core principles that could be used to make all of the players aware of the Board's position on certain legislative issues, and would prove especially useful to staff when faced with responding to fast moving legislative events. **The following suggested core principles were provided to the Board's Legislative Committee at their April 29, 1999 meeting. The general consensus of the committee was to forward these recommended core principles to the full Board with an invitation for all to review and provide suggestions as necessary.**

A. The Board

- generally endorses higher levels of funding to educational entities.
- supports efforts to seek mechanisms to mitigate dangerous conditions in public school buildings.
- supports initiatives to promote a higher rate of postsecondary attendance by high school graduates.
- opposes legislation that undermines its constitutional responsibilities.
- opposes legislation that mandates specific curriculum.

B. The Board reaffirms the Goals as outlined in the State Board of Education's Statewide Strategic Plan, page 4 (shown below).

Technology

1. Use technology to maximize productivity and the rate and quality of student learning.
 - Initiate a paradigm shift in the way Idahoans, including educators, view the delivery of educational services through technology.
 - Create incentives to encourage institutions and agencies to make the radical changes necessary to use technology effectively.
 - Develop the organizational structure to implement technology.
2. Establish an ongoing system to review innovations and recommend state of the art delivery of instruction.

Governance

1. Resolve roles and missions and governance issues as a prelude to implementation of other goals in the strategic plan.
 - Consolidate and delegate responsibilities at all levels.
 - Clarify the roles and missions of the institutions.
2. Provide clear direction from the State Board of Education to the institutions and agencies on the relative priority to be given higher education access, cost and quality.
3. Assure that the educational services provided by the State Board of Education, its agencies and institutions are driven by client needs.
4. Reaffirm the Board's commitment to K-12 public education and opposition to anything that would compromise the basic support structure.
5. Establish responsibility for management of public schools at the building site level consistent with the responsibility and authority of the school district board of trustees. A council of parents, teachers, administrators and, where appropriate, students, may be

utilized.

6. Acquire the resources on the Board staff to compile data needed to effectively assess Board policy questions.

Accountability

1. Improve public confidence in the educational system.
 - Develop an ongoing process to assess the outcomes of educational programs at all levels.

Instruction

1. Assure Idaho education operates as a seamless system without barriers between its various elements.
2. Assure Idaho schools provide a thorough education as defined in statute.
3. Assure excellence in teaching at all levels.

BOARD ACTION:

It was moved by _____ and carried to accept / reject / modify the core principles as presented in Item 6.2